

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 AMMAN 04218 250605Z

14-11
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W
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R 241350Z JUN 75
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4933
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

S E C R E T AMMAN 4218

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PFOR, JO, XF, PLO
SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER RIFAI ON MIDDLE EAST DEVELOPMENTS

1. I HAD A FEW MINUTES WITH PRIME MINISTER RIFAI
MORNING JUNE 24 TO DISCUSS HIS GULF TRIP AND MIDDLE
EAST DEVELOPMENTS.
2. I REAISED WITH HIM BRIEFLY NEWS REPORTS
COMING OUT OF BEIRUT AND ECHOED ELSWEWHERE THAT THERE
WAS GOING TO BE SOME SOR OF A QUADRIpartite MEETING SOON
(EGYPT, SYRIA, JORDAN AND PLO) AND THAT THE PLO WOULD GAIN
THE RIGHT TO EXPAND THEIR OFFICE, ETC., IN AMMAN.
RIFAI DENIED THIS STRONGLY. HE SAID WHEN ASAD
WAS HERE THEY HAD BOTH AGREED THAT THERE WAS
NO NEED FOR AND NO PURPOSE TO BE SERVED BY SCHEDULING
ANOTHER QUADRIpartite MEETING WHATEVER FAHMY WAS SAYING
PUBLICLY ABOUT THIS. IN ADDITION, HE EMPHASIZED
THERE WERE NO PLANS TO CHANGE THE STATUS OF THE PLO
HERE. RATHER, THE JORDANIANS HAD LEFT THE SYRIANS
WITH THE VERY STRONG IMPRESSION THAT IF THE
RECENT JORDANIAN TROOP MOVEMENTS TOWARD THE VALLEY AND AWAY
FROM THE SYRIAN BORDER WERE TO CONTINUE IN PLACE,

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SECRET

PAGE 02 AMMAN 04218 250605Z

THE SYRIANS WOULD HAVE TO CONTINUE TO ASSURE JORDAN

THERE WOULD BE NO MORE FEDAYEEN INFILTRATION.
RIFAI ALSO TOLD ME, HAVE NOT ALTERED THE POSITIONS OF THE
RESERVE (FIFTH ARMORED) DIVISION ALONG THE BORDER, AND AS
LONG AS SYRIA DOES NOT PERMIT FEDAYEEN INFILTRATION, THEY DO
NOT PLAN TO CHANGE THE STATUS OF THEIR NORTHERNMOST
INFANTRY DIVISION WHICH HAS BEEN PARTIALLY REORIENTED
AWAY FROM SYRIA AND TOWARD DEFENSE OF THE HEIGHTS
OVERLOOKING THE JORDAN VALLEY.
PICKERING

SECRET

NNN

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To: STATE
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